(c) whether Government propose to encourage the tribal of Orissa by providing to them modren technical equipment for collecting honey; and

(d) if so, what is the number of beneficiaries category-wise and details of other tribals engaged in honey collection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) As far as bee-keeping industry under Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is concerned, the honey producing districts of Orissa are; Cuttack, Dhenkanal Ganjam, Kalahandi Keonjhar, Phulbani and Koraput.

(b) As per the liberalised pattern of assistance for hill, border, tribal and weaker section areas financial assistance for capital expenditure to purchase implements and equipment viz., bee boxes, honey extractors etc. is given at 75 per cent grant of 25 per cent loan both to institutions and individuals including the hilly district of Mayurbhanj in Orissa.

(c) Yes, Sir. Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) have formulated special programme to encourage the tribals of Orissa in the development of bee-keeping in districts of Kalahandi, Koraput and Phulbani for the year 1987-88 under which financial assistance of Rs. 1,20,000 as grant and an equivalent amount as loan has been made available to Orissa State Khadi and Village Industries Board for financing individual bee-keepers for purchase of improved implements and equipment. This is in addition to the normal programmes undertaken by KVIC for development of bee-keeping in Orissa.

(d) The total number of bee-keepers under bee-keeping industry of KVIC in Orissa State during 1986-87 was 28,000 out of which 45 were women, 339 scheduled castes and 7,459 scheduled tribes.

Appointment of dealers for LPG in Modinagar

3454. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited has decided to appoint dealers/distributors of LPG domestic gas in Modinagar town, Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether any applications have been received therefor by the BPCL;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) what efforts are being made to help unemployed graduates, amongst others; and

(e) which are the other areas in Western Uttar Pradesh where BPCL propose to open such outlets during the year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) and (c) BPCL has received 54 applications for the proposed distributorship; these have been forwarded to OSB (North) for processing in accordance with the prescribed procedure;

(d) The existing policy provides that 55 per cent of the distributorships should be in the "Open" category with preference for unemployed Graduates;

(e) Upto the 1986-87 Marketing Plan, BPCL has issued Letters of Intent in Western U.P. for the following locations:

(1) Muzzaffarnagar, Dist. Muzaffarnagar
(2) Faridapur, Dist. Bareilly
(3) Saharanpur, Dist. Saharanpur
(4) Dehra Dun
Dist. Dehra Dun
(5) Dehra Dun
(6) Meerut, Dist Meerut
(7) Dadri, Dist. Ghaziabad
(8) Rudrapur, Dist. Nainital
(9) Meerut, Dist. Meerut.

Production target for crude

3455. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question 691 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th February, 1988 and state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the Hindustan Times dated the 25th January, 1988 wherein the Chairman ONGC has reportedly said that "ONGC has also been asked to reduce its production target to four million tonnes as per mid-term plan appraisal, because of certain problems"; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) No such statement of Chairman ONGC has appeared in the Hindustan Times Delhi Edition of 25th January 1988. Unstarred Question No. 691 was answered taking into account total crude production in the country. Although some adjustment in production targets have been made during mid-term review of 7th Plan, in no region ONGC, target has been reduced to four million tonnes from five million tonnes.

Reserves of gas and oil in South Bassein

3456. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the confirmed and unconfirmed reserves of natural gas and oil in South Bassein;

(b) by when gas supply will begin from the South Bassein and what are the plans for utilisation;

(c) the names of the companies working at present for field development of South Bassein and construction of the pipeline to bring gas to the shore and value of orders taken by each of them and completion schedule committed by them;

(d) what are the details of the new field development works planned or proposed for South Bassein;

(e) the total cost of South Bassein development and the revised schedule for completion of the project; and

(f) the amount of loans committed by foreign countries for South Bassein development and whether any new loans are proposed to be acquired?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) The balance recoverable reserves of crude oil and natural gas in Bombay Offshore, which includes South Bassein fields, is about 330 million tonnes and 400 million cubic metres respectively.

(b) Supply is expected to commence in 1988-89. Gas would be utilised for production of fertilizers and power.

(c) M/s. Snam Progetti of Italy have been awarded the contract for development work pertaining to